

Date: December 20, 2008

**Subject: A Lesson in Dirty Politics**

Greetings Sorors,

Today our National Executive Board met via conference call to address the concerns of the body's incomplete election. Contrary to the correspondence sent by our duly elected Chairman of the Board, Soror Janet Y. Bivins, Esq., and the official parliamentary opinion of our duly elected National Phylacter, Soror Emma Faulk, PRP, the composition of the National Executive Board was dramatically CHANGED last night by Soror Barbara Moore, 22<sup>nd</sup> International Grand Basileus to insure her candidate of choice, Soror Sheryl Underwood remained in office.

In a nutshell, Soror Moore removed ALL of the Regional Directors from the July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2008 Boulé (who rightfully were to vote on the conference call) from office replacing them with Soror Underwood's appointees. To add insult to injury, Soror Moore appointed 2 trustees to the board who were ALSO appointed by Soror Underwood.

In essence, Soror Moore walked into the meeting with 13 votes in her favor (Machelle Alexander, Trustee, has stated she is Soror Underwood's Executive Assistant and Past Grand Eunice Thomas is an open supporter of Soror Sheryl Underwood). Soror Moore, also in her quest to insure the scales were tipped, usurped the voting power of the Undergraduate Member to the Executive Committee, Soror Ameerah Abdur-Rahman, removing her from office by alleging she is under "investigation". However, upon further investigation, it has been revealed that Soror Abdur-Rahman has never received any notification from Immediate Past International Grand Basileus Moore stating she was suspended. As a matter of fact, what was revealed is Soror Abdur-Rahman's chapter was investigated this PAST May 2008, two months before Boulé when she elected to office by the National Body. Like many undergraduate chapters, they have not been given due process through any form of grievance committee on a national level.

Given the above information, naturally the vote swung toward the will of Barbara Moore's favor. **\*See voting 12.20.2008 NEB voting record.** We believe the jury is still out on this meeting. Case in point, if the vote of 374 Sorors in a re-balloting procedure is deemed invalid to complete an election, how is it possible that twenty-four (24) inappropriately seated members can vote to make a decision for 1,600 members who in vast majority did not vote for Soror Sheryl Underwood to represent our Sisterhood as the International Grand Basileus?

This abuse of power is seeking to disenfranchise over 1000 Sorors who voted alternately at Boulé 2008 and to further extend the obvious corruption, which has held our sorority in a stranglehold for the past six years.

Sorors, we CANNOT sit idly by and allow today's mockery of a meeting to represent what we know is simply WRONG. We are not only doing ourselves a disservice but are thumbing our nose at the very foundation of our sorority. A chosen few cannot dictate the direction of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated but should follow the will of the body when called to do so.

It is imperative that we hold our elected officials accountable to the wishes expressed by the voting delegation at our official business session conferences. When we began the "Our Time is NOW" Campaign, we did so noting our Sisterhood has a voice. We will continue to stand on the rock of DOING THE RIGHT THING ALL THE TIME. Our governing documents allow the BODY to have a run off election. And a run off election is what we will continue to assert is the RIGHT thing to do to determine who the CHOSEN candidate is of the BODY...not cronyism. Stay tuned. More information in the days to come.

Sisterly and Respectfully,

The Our Time Is Now Team

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